

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A top for a convertible vehicle with a flexible roof panel, which is attached to an arrangement of convertible-top rods and, in its rear area, to an attachment device of the vehicle body, in which a clamping device, acting on the flexible roof panel in the region of its attachment to the vehicle body in the closed state of the convertible top, is provided, said clamping device comprising:

said clamping device including a side bracket assigned to each side of the vehicle; at least one bracket

wherein each side bracket includes a first end in spaced relationship to a second end;

wherein the side bracket that forces the flexible roof panel in the closed state of the convertible top against an auto-body closure seal,

wherein the side bracket at least one bracket is pivotable at a rearward the second end around a [[n]] articulation pivot point that is attached to the vehicle body arranged in a at the second rearward end portion of the side bracket at least one bracket attached to the vehicle body such that the second end of the side bracket and the pivot point are at the same height in the open state as in the closed state.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) A convertible top according to Claim [[2]]1, wherein each side bracket is movable between a first position in the stored state of the convertible top and a second position that tightens the flexible roof panel in the closed state of the convertible top, such that each side bracket is pivoted upward with its end on the front side of the vehicle against the auto-body closure seal.

4. (Currently amended) A convertible top according to Claim 1, wherein the including a side bracket that is arranged essentially in the longitudinal direction of the vehicle and that can be pivoted about the articulation point.

5. (Currently amended) A convertible top according to Claim [[2]]1, wherein each side bracket in the opened state of convertible top, is arranged essentially at the height of the attachment device of the flexible roof panel and at a spacing from the attachment device~~flexible roof panel~~.

6. (Currently amended) A convertible top according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one bracket is designed as an at least roughly U-shaped bracket extending essentially over the width of the vehicle.

7. (Currently amended) A convertible top according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one bracket has a separate drive, controllable as a function of the motion of the convertible-top rods.

8. (Currently amended) A convertible top according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~side bracket~~at least one bracket is attached to the arrangement of convertible-top rods and can be moved by means of a drive device that drives the convertible top rods with the motion of the convertible-top rods.

9. (Currently amended) A convertible top according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~side bracket~~at least one bracket is attached to a main convertible-top support.

10. (Previously presented) A convertible top according to Claim 1, wherein the attachment device of the vehicle body has a clamping profile for holding the flexible roof panel.

11. (Previously presented) A convertible top according to Claim 1, wherein the attachment device of the vehicle body has an at least roughly U-shaped clip essentially spanning the width of the vehicle, to which the flexible roof panel is firmly connected.

12. (New) A top for a convertible vehicle with a flexible roof panel, which is attached to an arrangement of convertible-top rods and, in its rear area, to an attachment device

of the vehicle body, in which a clamping device, acting on the flexible roof panel in the region of its attachment to the vehicle body in the closed state of the convertible top, is provided,

the clamping device being designed with at least one bracket that forces the flexible roof panel in the closed state of the convertible top against an auto-body closure seal,

wherein the clamping device comprises a single bracket extending essentially over the vehicle width and being pivotably attached to the vehicle body at a pair of pivot points such that the pivot points are at the same height in the open state as in the closed state.

13. (New) A convertible top according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one bracket is attached to a main convertible-top support.

14. (New) A convertible top according to Claim 12, wherein the attachment device of the vehicle body has a clamping profile for holding the flexible roof panel.

15. (New) A convertible top according to Claim 12, wherein the attachment device of the vehicle body has an at least roughly U-shaped clip essentially spanning the width of the vehicle, to which the flexible roof panel is firmly connected.